HEBREPREPREPREPREPREPREPREPREPRE

Liars' Club of Squan Creek, Abel Small pirates by at least 50." was elected president by an overwhelming majority, and it is quite likely he sters, but never had anything to say at the meeting of the club. He improved as time went on, but was still way down to the foot of the class when Providence seemed to step in to give him a boost. That is, his wife burst out erying one evening and explained that all the neighbors looked down on her on his account. He was such an every day, one-horse liar that she had no social standing. As he tried to console her she said:

"If I was you, I'd be either at the head or move out of town. I've stood it as long as I can, and if you don't do some thing I'll commit suicide."

"I'll do somethin'," replied Abel, after thinking the matter over. "I've been goin' slow and gettin' the hang o' things, but I'll do somethin' in the next two weeks to put you up in society or break my neck tryin'."

Abel had never displayed much ambition, and his wife was only halfcomforted, but he went right on planming to surprise her and other folks. He went out in his boat after clams landed on the beach far away and was but one sentiment, and that was made for Philadelphia, and when he voiced by William Shriner as he rose up reached home in the night a week later and said: he had a wonderful story to tell. He said he was tonging for clams with his that we have among us a liar of whom anchor out when a whale swallowed we ought to be proud as a community for a couple of hundred miles. All he him. There isn't another man among

At the last annual election of the | know I underestimated the number of

The preacher wrassled with him for an hour, but Abel was firm. Instead of will hold the position for two or three taking anything off the story he kept terms. Three years ago Abel was conadding to it, and the good man finally sidered small fish as a liar. He lied a left in despair. Abel began to weaken He occasionally about clams and lob- soon after that and wish he had owned up, but his wife looked at his toe-nails again and said:

"There isn't a mite of blue to be seen about 'em, and I don't believe you are goin' to die after all. Jest hang to your story like a dog to a root,"

Well, Abel hung between life and death for two days, and then began to improve, and at the end of four days | I'm glad it's over. I got along all right the doctor said he would get well. In the doctor said he would get well. In the days he was out of danger, and noterians, but the bicyclers were my bane. body knew what to think about it. ne said that he had been saved to give him time to repent, and others that he must have been telling the truth about the whale and the pirates, but he was lifted right up on the pinnacle of greatness. Deacon Spooner headed a subscription and raised \$50 for him, and the aristocracy called on Mrs. Small in such numbers that she couldn't get the Monday washing out until Friday. Abel was hardly fit to in the week, without about 20 on Sunbe out when the annual election of the Liars' club came around, and six of the most prominent men in town esthe next day and did not return. He corted him down to the hall. There

"It will be no surprise when I say the anchor and towed him out to sea We are all liars, but we cannot equal



HE STUCK TO IT.

had to estand drink for seven days us who wouldn't have crawfished when cough-sirup, and he met with pirates Ananias wasn't slow, but he wasn't and sharks and hurricanes without knee-high to the man I now present number. It was a steek, slick lie, and you as the next president of our club. so well told that some folks almost be-Reved it. Abel's wife knew just where he had been, but she patted him on the back and said:

"At last you are doing somethin' to tellin' that story, and don't take off a newspaper. single shark or pirate if you die for swept-away bridge over Wolf creek

Henry Schemerhorn, John Tobias and Deacon Spooner got after Abel and 'em how it was if they had come to me. tried to pick flaws in his story and We were driving ahead at full speed make him own up, but they couldn't when I says to the fireman: budge him. They sniffed at the whale, made fun of the pirates and proved by the weather reports that there hadn' even been a gale while he was gone but he shut his jaw firmly and replied

"Gentlemen, you may believe me or not, but it all happened just as I say I'm sure the whale was ten feet longer than my figures."

About ten days after Abel got home he was taken down with typhoid fever and when the doctor said it was a very serious case, the sick man told his wife that he had better own up that the story was a lie. He didn't want to dis with no such whopper charged against

"Abel, don't you do it," she advised "You are a sick nan and are goin' to be sieker, but you must take chances of dyin'. You must do it for the sake of me and the children. The lie as it stands is the slickest ever told in Squan Creek, and women who used to pass me with their noses up now holler over the back fence and want to lend me their washboards. Hang on, Abel. till you are struck with death.'

He said he would, and he meant it After two or three nights he had to Dave watchers, and they laid their hands on his fevered brow and told him he was nearing the grave, and advised him to unburden his conscience. owned up to having lied about seeing ; lobster with wings and a clam with feet, but he wouldn't go any further Even in his delirious moments he would cry out:

"Ha! ha! thou bloody pirate, bu sheer off or I will give you a broadside which will send you to the bottom before you can call upon Heaven for

One day the doctor announced that Abel had less than 24 hours to live and the dying man asked his wife if he hadn't better own up to the lie. She turned up the sheet to look at his toesails and advised him to hold on. The mails hadn't turned blue yet, and there was one chance in a thousand that he might pull through. The preacher came in presently to ask Abel if he was prepared for the great change

about to take place, and added: "You know that it is written that no fiar can inherit the kingdom of

"Yes, I know," replied the dying man, "but I can't be barred out on that account. I stole a dozen eggs once in my boyhood days, and mebbe that will he held up agin me, but as for lyin the recordin' angel won't have nothin'

set down." "But about the whale and pirate story?" asked the good man with a sad | walk?"

shake of the head. I don't think I got the wind blowin' not planting them in our front yard."half as hard as it really did, and I Detroit Free Press.

CHARLES B. LEWIS.

HE WAS NO HERO.

"I can't see how they make so much romance out of this railroad business,' said the engineer, as he threw aside hi "Here is the case of the and they have got it that I sayed the train and am a hero. I could have told

"George, what d'ye think about the creek?

"'I think it's bank-full and running over,' says he.

'How about the bridge?' "'I think it's gone, don't you?"

" 'Then you'd better stop at the post and let me go ahead and see

"And I stopped and he went ahead, explained the engineer, "and pretty on be comes back and says:

'Jim, she's gone,'

" 'Then we can't go on?' " 'Not unless a locomotive can swim!

"That was the way of it and all there vas to it, and I can't figure out how saved 200 lives and deserve a gold medal. When I backed up to Charlestown to telegraph the news and wait for a wrecking train the division super intendent couldn't see the romance

"'What's the bloody row?' he says, as he comes out. Bridge gone.

"'And why didn't you run your train into the creek?"

"'My fireman didn't want to g " 'Humph! Bounce him for blocking

vacation!

such mistake unless you want a year's

It Was Declined.

"We shall have to decline the Geezers' invitation to their card par-," wheezed Mrs. Gazzam.

"That's odd," replied Mr. Gazzan You enjoy playing so thoroughly." "But I shouldn't enjoy it to-morrov night, for I'm so hoarse I can't speak above a whisper."-Detroit Free Press

He Got Out of It. Hewitt-I don't believe in putting off

until to-morrow what you can do to day.

Jewett-Pay me that five dollars

Hewitt-The rule doesn't apply; that's something I can't do to-day.

Inwelcome Restigation.

"I invited Puss Pilkington to go with me to hear one of the song recitals and she refused point blank."

"Don't you know why? She was singing 'What Is Home Without a Mother a few nights ago and her father came in and told her he had just married the cook."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Corporation Kindness. "Henry, ean't you remonstrate about those two telephone poles on our side-

"Gracious! no, Ellen. I'm just draft "That was all true to the last word. ing a vote of thanks to the company for

THE DICYCLERS DID IT. "Why am I out of a job?" repeated the motorman with a catch in his voice and a nervous look around. "Well that's dead easy of explanation. I got the bounce from headquarters, and I don't imagine I shall ever turn on the current again. If I was offered my place back to-morrow I'd hold it over for awhile."

"Have too many collisions?" was

"It was the bicycle folks who brought about my downfall," he sorrowfully re-plied. "But for them I'd be on the front platform right now and feeling as chipper as you please. The climax had been slowly coming for two years, and as they are the bane of every other motorman. They kept at me till my nerve petered out and I could no longer make time on a car. Lord! but how I have suffered!"

Being asked how many bicyclers he had run down, he mopped his face with his handkerchief and replied:

"I have never touched one, and that's the singular part of it. It was the dozen close shaves a day for every day days. I believe I have come within an inch of running down about 50 riders, and 500 times I have had my heart jump into my throat and almost suffo cate me. You see, the average bicycler, whether man, woman, boy or girl, don't give a flip for anything on wheels. They'll take chances to freeze your blood and depend upon luck to get through. I've been humping my car along at 12 miles an hour, and had 20 riders come whirling out of a side street and cross in front of me. It was as if that's how he got caught! - Heitere the devil was after them, and rather Welt. than put on the brake, they'd let me come so nigh grinding 'em under the wheels that my hair would curl for hours. I've had 'em run slap into the side of the car a hundred times over, and always through their own care-

lessness, but I never run one down." "And all this has shattered your

nerves?" "Say, old man, watch that hand for minute! It's all a-tremble, and I'm feeling all the time as if somebody was going to hit me. That's a case of nerves. You see, the close shaves I had by day always made me dream at night. Lands alive, but the number of bicyclers I've run down in my dreams would count up a thousand! I've seen corpses and blood-spots and broken wheels until I awoke with a yell and there has been a night in the last six waist of it."-Chicago Record. months that I haven't picked up a rider in my dreams and heard 'em yell out as the wheels ground over 'em, and I've had visions too horrible to tell of. All last week I was behind time. Every time I got up speed I grew afraid of running somebody down. The conducor scolded, the passengers kicked and Puck. the manager gave me 24 hours to get my nerve back. On my very first trip yesterday morning I ticked the hind wheel of a bike with my cow-catcher, and after that I went all to pieces. Maybe a lay-off for a few weeks will bring my nerve back, but if it don't I'll go to driving an ice wagon. They are the only things on wheels a bieyelist will turn out for, and if they happen to run over anybody there's no great fuss made about it."

AN ENTHUSING TIME.

About seven o'clock in the evening the villagers began to drop into the layern, and when about 30 of them had come together they proceeded to organize a fire company. They had no engine or other apparatus, but they organized just the same, and when a foreman had been elected there were oud calls for a speech and a demand

that he outline his policy. "Gentlemen," he began, as he mountd a chair, "it is needless to say that this is the proudest moment of my life, and that I would not exchange places with the president of the United states. As to my policy-"

"Yes, give us your policy!" was shouted.

"As to my policy. Lahall use every endeavor to lower our taxes."

"Whoop! Whoop-ee!" was yelled or

"I shall go in for more railroads, more factories, higher wages, shorter hours

and cheaper flour and meht." "Whoopee! Whoop!"
"I shall go further," continued the newly-elected. "I shall demand protection for home industry, and expan-

sion of the currency, and a more rigid adherence to the principles of economy in all departments of government." "Go in, Jim-go in!" was chorused.

"Yes, I shall go in, and I shall peronally see to it that the prestige of this government is maintained abroad, the road, and don't you make another I will see that we return to Jeffersonian economies. I pledge you my word to ever stand up for the Monroe doctrine, and the foreign enemy who would invade our sacred shores must first walk over my dead body!"

"Bully for you, old man!" was the

general cry.
"And a word more," said the orator as he wiped the back of his neck and looked around. "I did not seek this great honor, but as it has been thrust apon me I will accept it and carry America on from posterity to posterity until gold pieces in the hands of the poor shall be a more common sight han marbles in the hands of children. Arise! Shake off your lethargy! Be hold for the first time in your lives

When the meeting had disbanded in blaze of glory I asked the village coper if he expected great results

he dawn of a nation's freedom."

"Do 1? Do I?" he repeated. "Why, you knust be mighty thick-headed not to see that we shall name and elect the next president and have every blamed ongressman under our thumb!"

Asking Too Much. "I wish men were like pianos." "Wby ?"

"Beenuse planos are either grand, upight or square " "Well, mort men are a great deal like danbs.

"How?" "You can buy them at a nig discount from their list price."-Chicago Trib-

"Bridget," he said to the family maid, I am unexpectedly called out for the evening, and I want you to see that your mistress gets this note."

"Yes, soor," responded Bridget, "I'll lave it in the pocket of the trousers ye've just taken off, then she'll be sure

to find it."-Spare Moments. They Must Have It. Men may live and be happy.

'Tis claimed, without books,
And some day fair science
May banish the cooks;
But never while people
Still labor and hope

Will men agree to
Dispense with soft soap.

-Chicago Times-Herald. PUNISHED FOR HIS HONESTY.



"So your boy is in the house of correct

"Yes, I'm sorry to say! He was always so honest, and when he stole anything he always brought it home, and

> Small Boy Speaks. I don't want to be an angel.
> And with the angels stand; I'd rather be a drum-major And lead the village bar And lead the village hand, -Chicago Dally News,

Domestie Catastrophe. "Then there is no hope?" said the

man desperately.
"None," she calmly replied. "The eman must have stolen it." She had saved a piece of pie from luncheon for his dinner, and now it was gone.-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Just in Vogue. "Clementine, what did you do with that curtain goods you bought last

"Well, it was entirely too gay and wanted to run away. I don't believe loud for curtains, so I made a shirt

> An Instance. She-Do you honestly believe that we romen have such a failing for any thing that is reduced?

He-Well, there is Miss Antique whose age is 23-reduced from 38.-A Usurpation.

he nights shall be filled with music But no one can understand Why the tomcat goes On the fence to pose As the manager of the band, -Washington Star.



"My position is quite a sinecurehave really nothing to do.' "My dear fellow, you are quite equa

to it."-Ally Sloper. The Men Who Give Advice. If "all the world's a stage-"
And who can doubt it any?-

You'll certainly agree The prompters are too many.

Obeyed Orders. Merchant-If the man was out, why lid you no wait until he came back, as I told you?

Messenger-Dere was a notice on de loor what says: "Hetoin at Wunst."-Town Topics.

He Was Quite Sure. Irate Father-Are you sure you love ny daughter for herself alone? Suitor-Quite sure. If she marries me I shall never ask any of her relatives to live with us .- N. Y. Journal.

Her Reasons. Lawyer-So you want a divorce from your husband, the flying-machine inventor. What are your reasons?

Client-Well, he is flighty, and his machines ain't .- Judge. Some Other Girl. Chapple-The fortune teller said

was to marry soon! What do you think of that? Miss Peachly-You can't prove it by me!-Puck.

A Great Man's Return In school the other boys with ease Contrived to spell him down; To-day they're making costly plans

To welcome him to town, -Chicago Times-Herald. Surprising.

Mr. Gotham-Here, sir, is some whisky which I have had in my cellar for 20 years. Col. Kaintuck-Well! well! How did it get lost?-N. Y. Weekly.

No Place for Blekering. "A balloon club has just been organzed in Paris," "Well, let's hope the members will not fall out."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Difference of Opinion Mrs. Jones-I suppose marriage is

lottery? Mrs. Bickers-Oh! I don't know, consider it a game of skill.-Puck.

"But they marry in the last act, do they not?" he asked.

"No," she replied. "It seems to be understood that they will some day, but there is no definite arrangement when." She sighed and he took the hint .-

Another Burden Added. Mrs. Gotham-I hear your husband has brought you twin bedsteads. Mrs. Church-That's right. "Good gracious! Isn't one bedstead

night, without having two?"-Yonkers Bit of Everyday Philosophy.

enough to have to look under every

Old Lady-What time does the next rain go to Yonkers? Ticket Seller-Twelve o'clock. Old Lady-Dear me! Isn't there one

pefore that? Ticket Seller (calmly)-Madam, there s never one before the next.-Harlem Life.

Mrs. Younghusband-How did you know the pie I made for dinner to-day wasn't the same as the one I made yes erday? Younghusband-Because it gave me different kind of pain in my stomach.

A Frugal Soul. "Where's your bottle of cough medi-

-N. Y. World.

ine, Josiah?" "What do you want with it?" "Well, you won't take it, and as it cost 65 cents it shan't be wasted. I'm going to polish the piano with it.". Chicago Record.

The Ideal and Real. How our hearts with joy uprise When within them love has birth Love may lift us to the skies-Marriage draws us down to earth -- Hariem Life.

POPULAR SCIENCE.



Susie-Oh, mamma, I'll never disobey you again!

Mamma-Why, Susie, what have you lone? Susie-Well, I drank my milk at lunch and then I ate a-pickle; and the milk said to the pickle: "Get out!" and the

pickle said: "I won't!" and they are having an awful time.-Harlem Life, As It Should Be. Ben and Ann the parson sought, And soon were much elated; For Bene-fitted was the groom,

And the bride was Anna-mated. --Chicago Daily News. His Memory. "Did you ever find that when you stood up to talk before an assemblage that you forgot everything you ever

knew? "No," answered Senator Sorghum, "I never was investigated."-Washington Star.

Styginn Amenities. Nero-What do you think was the real reason that I fiddled while Rome was burning? Queen of Sheba-To add to the tor

ture of the populace, I suppose.-N. Y. World. A Way Out of It. Boarder-Really, madam, I cannot wipe myself dry with such a small

Landlady-Very well; I'll tell the chambermaid to bring you less water. -Tit-Bits. About the Size of It.

Ideals die too fast, 'tis said, But then why should we mourn; For everyone that shuffles off At least two more are born.

-Chicago Daily News. FRESH FROM THE PAWNSHOP,



Mother (to her son, just home from college)-What is that number on your vercoat for?

Son-It's the controom numberwas at the theater. Mother-But here are your trousers! You didn't leave them at the coatroom, too, did you?-Heitere Welt.

> Proportions. "Ha's a 7x9 politician!"
> They say to him. Were they fair
> They'd say he is 7x7— He's little, but he's square, -Detroit Journal,

Not Sparing of It. "Mrs. Jawger seems to be quite iberal-minded woman." "O, yes; she's always willing to give ent Lawyers. WASHINGTON, D.C. other people a piece of it."-Philadel-

phia Bulletin.

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